HB 849 -- Model Jury Instructions

Sponsor: Lant

This bill requires the Missouri Supreme Court to develop a model jury instruction to be used in criminal trials that includes the sentence the defendant will receive if found guilty and the amount of time the defendant is likely to serve if found guilty for each crime with which the defendant is charged.

Judges must provide the model jury instruction to all juries prior to the jury reaching a verdict, along with all other jury instructions given by the court. The Department of Corrections must provide statistics regarding each crime and the average sentence that is served for each crime to the Missouri Supreme Court for use in developing the model jury instruction under these provisions.